

CLAIMS

5 1. A hair treatment composition comprising a hydroxy compound having the following parameters:

- (i) $S_{sOH} < 9.26$;
- (ii) $BIC > 0.8$;
- (iii) $S_{sCH_3} < 6.26$ and;
- 10 (iv) a molecular weight greater than 90μ .

wherein the composition does not dye hair.

15 2. A hair treatment composition according to claim 1 in which the molecular weight of the hydroxy compound is from 101 to 131.

20 3. A hair treatment composition according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which the hydroxy compound has from 5 to 8 carbon atoms

25 4. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim in which the hydroxy compound has a methyl side chain.

5. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim in which the hydroxy compound is selected from the group consisting of 2-methyl-2-hexanol, 2-methyl-2-heptanol, 2-methyl-3-heptanol, 2-methyl-2-pentanol, 2-methyl-3-hexanol, 3-methyl-2-pentanol, 2-methyl-1-pentanol and mixtures thereof.

6. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim in which the total amount of hydroxy compound present in the composition is from 0.01 to 5 wt%
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7. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim further comprising a surfactant.
8. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding 10 claim which comprises an aqueous base.
9. Use of a composition according to any preceding claim for smoothing hair.
- 15 10. Use of a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 8 for aligning hair.
11. Use of a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 8 for preventing damage to the hair.
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12. A method of treating hair by applying a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 8 to the hair.